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This Iowa DNR Water Quality Listserv is a subscription service that you have requested. Its purpose is to deliver timely water quality technical information directly to your email.

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1. Septage cleaning and pumping rules changes proposed.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is proposing to change and update IAC 567-68. The rules are being changed to reflect the changes required by the passage of House File 834 during the 2005 legislative session. The intent is to provide more oversight of septic tank cleaners and their waste disposal practices. The rules will require the submission of septage management plans, land application site inspections and equipment inspections. Fees will be increased to contract with county environmental health offices or others to perform these inspections. The septage management plans will outline where the septage collected by these septic tank cleaners is disposed of and the methods of disposal.

Proposed rules can be found at: <http://www.iowadnr.com/water/npdes/rulemaking.html> or <http://www.iowadnr.com/epc/06mar/11.pdf>

Public comments will be accepted until May 17, 2006. Such written materials should be directed to Brent Parker, Wastewater Operations Section, Department of Natural Resources, 401 SW 7th Street, Suite M., Des Moines, Iowa 50319-4611; fax (515) 725-0348. Persons who wish to convey their views orally should contact the Wastewater Operations Section at (515) 725-0337 or at the Water Supply Operations Office, 401 SW 7th St., Des Moines, IA 50309-4611.

Public hearings are scheduled as following:

Des Moines	May 3, 2006 Wednesday	1:00-4:00	IDNR, Water Supply Section, 401 SW 7 th St Suite I, Conference Rooms Des Moines, IA 50309
Mason City	May 4, 2006 Thursday	10:00-12:00	North Iowa Area Community College 500 College Drive Papa John Center, Room 224 Mason City, IA 50401
Atlantic	May 9, 2006	1:00-3:00	Atlantic Public Library

	Tuesday	507 Poplar St., Meeting Room Atlantic, IA 50022
Storm Lake	May 10, 2006 10:00-12:00 Wednesday	Arrowhead Area Education Agency 824 Flindt Drive, Suite C, Rm 606, Storm Lake, IA 50588
Manchester	May 11, 2002 10:00-12:00 Thursday	Delaware County Fairgrounds 200 East Acers St. Manchester, IA 52057
Washington	May 16, 2002 10:00-12:00 Tuesday	Washington Public Library 120 East Main Washington, IA 52353

2. Use Assessment and Attainability Analysis Field Work has Begun.

As the new rules are continuing to jump over administrative hurdles on their way to becoming approved by the EPA, the DNR has started conducting stream assessments for recreational uses on March 15, 2006. This work will continue through November 15, 2006. The data from these stream assessments will be used to draft Use Assessment and Attainability Analyses (UAAs) for rivers and streams across the state. These assessments are currently focused on the rivers and streams that received a change in designated uses as a result of the DNR's latest rule making package. The DNR will be looking closely at these streams, especially where there is an NPDES permitted discharge whose permits limits may become more stringent as a result of the rule changes. The new rules provide a "rebuttable presumption" that all perennial streams or intermittent streams with perennial pools that were not previously designated become "fishable and swimmable" or Class A1 Primary Contact Recreational Use and Class B(WW-1) Warm Water - Type 1 waters. This means these waters are considered fishable and swimmable unless shown otherwise through a scientifically based assessment, in this case a UAA. The department has begun to conduct this field work to determine whether this presumption is appropriate for these waters. Once the field work is complete, the DNR will be drafting the UAA documents which will provide an analysis of attainable uses for that specific waterbody. These UAAs will be available for public review and any recommended use designation change shall proceed through the formal rulemaking process.

For more information, please contact Adam Schnieders at (515) 281-7409 or Adam.Schnieders@dnr.state.ia.us.

3. The Water Quality Listserver Archive List can be found on the DNR website at: <http://www.iowadnr.com/water/listserv.html>. If you have questions, comments or ideas for listserver topics, please contact Corey McCoid at 515-281-0675 or email corey.mccoid@dnr.state.ia.us.